

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9066

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 04 BONN 10160

NODIS

STADIS//////////

EYES ONLY FOR S/S DAVID ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) GW WB
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: OVERVIEW FOLLOWING VISIT
OF SURVEY TEAM

REF: BONN 10159

1. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A SEPARATE CABLE ALSO NODIS
COVERING THE PROGRAM FOR THE FIRST DAY OF THE PRESIDENT'S
BILATERAL VISIT, PLUS THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT PROGRAM
SCHEDULE OUTLINE. WE EXPECT YOU WILL MAKE THAT CABLE
IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE SURVEY TEAM SINCE IT IS
RESPONSIVE TO THEIR WISHES. IN ADDITION, THAT CABLE
WILL INCLUDE SOME NOTES ON ARRIVAL AND ON MORNING
ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO THE START OF THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT.
THIS PART OF THE PROGRAM SEEMS IN REASONABLY GOOD
SHAPE. TIMES AND DETAILS OF COURSE WILL CHANGE A DOZEN
TIMES BUT MOST OF IT LOOKS FAIRLY BLOCKED OUT. THE
AMBIGUITIES HINGE ON DAY TWO OF THE PRESIDENT'S BILATERAL
VISIT AND THAT IS WHAT THIS MESSAGE, WHICH IS STRICTLY
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STADIS, COVERS.

2. FIRST A NOTE ON BILATERAL DAY ONE. THE MAJOR OPEN
QUESTION SEEMS TO BE A MEETING WITH THE FOUR PARTY
LEADERS. WE ARE RECOMMENDING THIS IN SEPTTEL, ALTHOUGH
THE SURVEY TEAM HAD SOME CONCERNS BASED ON THE
PRESIDENT'S BUSY SCHEDULE AND THE NEED FOR STAFF TIME.

WE HOPE YOU WILL ALSO POINT OUT WHY THIS PART OF THE PROGRAM IS IMPORTANT FOR OVER-ALL AND LONG-TERM US-FRG RELATIONS.

3. THE FIRST HALF OF JULY 15 DEALS WITH TRIPS TO EITHER FRANKFURT OR WIESBADEN, TO EITHER BRIGADE 76 AT WIESBADEN/ERBENHEIM, OR TO HANAU (WHERE A UNIT STRONG ON ENGINEERING AND BRIDGE BUILDING IS STATIONED), PLUS A REVIEW OF US AND GERMAN AIR FORCES AT RHEIN MAIN AIR BASE AS THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS UPON ARRIVAL.

4. THE RHEIN MAIN REVIEW AND MEETING WITH TROOPS IS UNCONTROVERSIAL. WE ALL THOUGHT IT WAS THE OBVIOUS THING TO DO AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT IS IN.

5. WHEN THE SURVEY TEAM PLUS OTHERS INCLUDING EMBASSY OFFICERS VISITED BRIGADE 76 WE HAD EXPECTED TO FIND AN EXCITING SPOT FOR SIMULATED MILITARY EXERCISES. INSTEAD, WE FOUND AN APPARENTLY EXCELLENT MINITURIZED TRAINING COURSE WHICH UNFORTUNATELY PRODUCED A BIT OF THE IMPRESSION OF A MINI-GOLF COURSE OR A SHOOTING GALLERY. THE SURVEY TEAM AS WELL AS OTHERS LEFT SKEPTICAL THAT SUCH A "SUB-CALIBER" DISPLAY WAS PRESIDENTIAL TIMBER, AND ALL WERE A LITTLE CONCERNED OVER HOW THE PRESS WOULD PLAY IT.

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6. WE WENT TO VIEW HANAU WITH PRIOR SKEPTICISM. IT TURNED OUT FAR MORE INTERESTING THAN WE HAD EXPECTED. THE BARRACKS AND BASE AREA ARE NOT IN GOOD SHAPE (THOSE AT BRIGADE 76 ARE SPARKLING) BUT ON THE OTHER HAND THEY ARE MORE TYPICAL OF THE NORMAL CONDITIONS FACING OUR TROOPS IN EUROPE. THE POTENTIAL FOR A MILITARY DISPLAY IS THERE, IN THE FORM OF RAPID BRIDGE BUILDING ACROSS THE MAIN RIVER. WE SAW A RIVER SITE PLUS BRIDGING EQUIPMENT, AND WERE ASSURED THAT A BRIDGE COULD BE BUILT FROM SCRATCH IN 20 MINUTES OR LESS WHILE THE PRESIDENT, CHANCELLOR AND OTHERS WATCHED, AND THAT THEY COULD THEN WALK ACROSS, AND THAT REPRESENTATIVE US AND FRG ARMOR COULD ALSO ROLL ACROSS IT. THE DIS-ADVANTAGE WITH HANAU SEEMS TO BE LOGISTICAL, I.E., IT IS SOMEWHAT FURTHER FROM RHEIN MAIN, BUT VARIOUS KNOWLEDGEABLE MILITARY THINK IT WOULD PROBABLY COME OUT ABOUT THE SAME DRIVING TIME AS WIESBADEN/ERBENHEIM.

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7. FRAN AND OTHERS FROM THE SURVEY TEAM LEFT THE FRG INCLINED TOWARD WIESBADEN/ERBENHEIM, ALTHOUGH TO A WHOLLY DIFFERENT APPROACH THERE. THE APPROACH THEY ENVISAGED WAS A STATIC DISPLAY OF US AND GERMAN WAR INSTRUMENTS, PLUS A GATHERING OF US AND GERMAN FORCES. THE PRESIDENT AND THE CHANCELLOR COULD MILL WITH THESE FORCES, AND/OR MAKE REMARKS TO THEM. WE SEE SOME MERIT IN THIS APPROACH (WE CERTAINLY FIND IT SAFER ALL-IN-ALL THEN THE MINITURIZED FIRING VARIANT EARLIER ENVISAGED FOR WIESBADEN/ERBENHEIM) BUT WE ALSO SEE SOME STRONG MERITS IN THE HANAU VARIANT.

8. THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MORNING IS ALSO UNDECIDED, SPECIFICALLY AS BETWEEN A TOWN VISIT (WITH GOLDEN BOOK, ETC.) IN EITHER FRANKFURT OR WIESBADEN. WE TEND TO FAVOR FRANKFURT -- IT IS A MORE EXCITING AND REAL GERMAN CITY -- AND WE THINK FRAN FELT THAT WAY TOO. ON THE OTHER HAND, OTHERS IN HER GROUP MAY HAVE FELT WIESBADEN WAS PREFERABLE. THE MESSAGES WE HAD GOTTEN FROM THE FRG WERE THAT IT FELT EXTREMELY ONE-SIDED IN FAVOR OF FRANKFURT. IT IS NOW A LITTLE MORE CLOUDED, PROBABLY BECAUSE THE LAND OF HESSE WHICH IS HEADQUARTERED IN WIESBADEN HAS WEIGHED IN. WE ARE TOLD BY OUR FRG FRIENDS THAT THE CHANCELLOR AND THE HESSE MINISTER-
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PRESIDENT WILL HASH THE MATTER OUT, BUT OUR OWN READING

RIGHT NOW IS THAT THE FRG WILL COME DOWN SQUARELY FOR FRANKFURT.

BERLIN PORTION

9. AT BERLIN THE SURVEY TEAM, MISSION AND EMBASSY OFFICERS TOURED VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES FOR A SPEECH, A CITY VISIT, AND ARRIVALS. IT LOOKS LIKE TEMPELHOF WILL BE THE SITE FOR ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE, WHICH EVERYONE FAVORS AND WITH WHICH THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THE NEED FOR THE AIR FORCE TO BE ASKED BY THE WHITE HOUSE TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE. FRAN FEELS SHE HAS THIS WELL UNDER CONTROL.

10. FOLLOWING ARRIVAL AT TEMPELHOF, FRAN'S VIEW SEEMS TO BE TO VISIT THE AIRLIFT MONUMENT IN THE AREA, WHERE THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY WOULD BE ASSEMBLED. THE PRESIDENT COULD BRIEFLY ADDRESS THIS GROUP. WE SEE NO PARTICULAR PROBLEMS WITH THIS VARIANT, WHICH LOOKS EVEN BETTER BECAUSE IT IS THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERLIN AIRLIFT. AN ALTERNATIVE IS TO ASSEMBLE THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY AT THE AIRPORT PROPER, WHICH BOTH WE AND THE TEAM FEEL IS LESS DESIRABLE.

11. A TOUR OF THE CITY WOULD FOLLOW WITH THE HIGH POINT LIKELY TO BE THE POTSDAMER PLATZ AND ITS VIEW OF THE WALL. WHILE SOME TENDED TO FAVOR THE BRANDENBURG GATE, A NUMBER OF OTHERS FOUND POTSDAMER PLATZ MUCH MORE SOBER AND APPROPRIATE TO THE REALITIES OF BERLIN. FRAN WAS OF THIS VIEW AS WELL, AND MAY HAVE FOUND THE FACT THAT PART OF THE PLATZ IS IN THE AMERICAN SECTOR ANOTHER ADVANTAGE. IN ADDITION THE
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PRESIDENT WOULD PROBABLY VISIT DOWNTOWN BERLIN AND THE GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE AMONG OTHER SITES.

12. NEXT WOULD COME HIS SPEECH, AND THIS IS A MATTER WITH A NUMBER OF CONFLICTING CONSIDERATIONS. AN OUTDOOR SPEECH IS VIBRANT AND EXCITING. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE SITE WAS USED RECENTLY BY THE QUEEN, AND THERE COULD BE (A) PROBLEMS ATTRACTING A COMPARABLE CROWD ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON WHEN THE SHOPS WERE CLOSED AND (B) PROBLEMS OF LEFTISTS OR HECKLERS. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE FOR AN OUTDOOR SPEECH IS THE AIRLIFT MONUMENT, A SMALLER SPEECH AREA AND ONE POSSIBLY EASIER TO CONTROL. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS AGAIN THE POSSIBILITY OF UNFAVORABLE CROWD COMPARISONS WITH OTHER MAJOR BERLIN SPEECHES, INCLUDING THOSE OF PAST PRESIDENTS. IN ADDITION, FRAN SEEMED TO

FEEL THAT A POLICY-ORIENTED SPEECH WOULD BEST BE DONE
INDOORS. HER PREFERENCE SEEMS TO BE TOWARD THE
CONGRESSHALLE. WE FEEL SOMEWHAT TEMPTED BY THE IDEA
OF AN OUTDOOR SPEECH AT THE AIRLIFT MONUMENT, BUT
THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE ARGUMENTS -- INCLUDING
INCLEMENT WEATHER -- ARE THERE IN FAVOR OF AN INDOOR
SPEECH, AND IT IS NOT A BAD SOLUTION. WE HAVE NO
PARTICULARLY STRONG FEELINGS AS BETWEEN THE CONGRESSHALLE
AND OTHER INDOOR POSSIBILITIES (I.E., PHILHARMONIE OR

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OPERA), AND THE CONGRESSHALLE HAS THE ADDED VIRTUE
OF BEING AN A.ERIAN CONTRIBUTION TO BERLIN. THERE IS
OF COURSE A POSSIBILITY THEORETICALLY OF SHIFTING
SCHEDULES SO THAT THE PRESIDENT GOES TO BERLIN THE
MORNING OF THE 15TH RATHER THAN THE AFTERNOON,
THEREBY MAKING THE CROWD DRAWING PROBLEM AT LEAST IN
THE CENTER OF THE CITY A LOT EASIER. BUT THE QUEEN HAS
JUST SPOKEN AT THE GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE, A LOGICAL SITE
FOR SUCH AN APPEARANCE, AND THIS SWITCH WOULD TAKE THE
PRESIDENT TECHNICALLY OUT OF THE FRG AND BACK IN. ON
BALANCE WE HAVE NOT SERIOUSLY LOOKED AT IT HERE AND
JUST ADD IT FOR YOUR CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND.

13. PRIOR TO THE SURVEY VISIT TO BERLIN, FRAN HAD
RAISED THE THOUGHT OF THE PRESIDENT'S HOLDING A "TOWN
MEETING" IN BERLIN, PERHAPS AT THE CONGRESSHALLE. WE
POINTED OUT THAT SUCH AN IDEA COULD POSE REAL
PROBLEMS. IT WOULD EXPOSE THE PRESIDENT TO A LIKELY
BARRAGE OF QUESTIONS ON BERLIN, SOME OF WHICH WOULD

DOUBTLESS STRAIN EVEN A THEOLOGIAN'S ABILITY TO
ANSWER WITHOUT ERROR. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE REMEMBER
THE TIME THAT NIXON IN A SIMILAR Q & A SITUATION CHANGED
OUR RESPONSIBILITIES FROM BERLIN OVER-ALL JUST TO WEST
BERLIN. FRAN DISCUSSED THE IDEA OF A TOWN MEETING WITH
SCOTT GEORGE (BUT NOT OTHERS) IN BERLIN, AND SCOTT
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EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT IT BOTH FROM THE STANDPOINT
OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE LIKELY QUESTIONS AND THE
PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN SELECTING PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE MEETING. THE LATTER, OF COURSE, HAS SECURITY
IMPLICATIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, SUCH AN EVENT WOULD BE
NOVEL AND EXCITING. WE WILL WANT TO CONSIDER ALL THE
ANGLES, BUT AT THE PRESENT WE HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THE
CONCEPT.

14. FINALLY, THE PRESIDENT WOULD SIGN THE GOLDEN BOOK
AND MEET WITH BERLIN SENATE AND OTHER OFFICIALS. THIS
PART LOOKS LIKE IT WILL BE AT THE RATHAUS. AN
ELEGANT ALTERNATIVE, THE CHARLOTTEMBERG, HAS
JUST BEEN USED BY THE QUEEN FOR THE SAME CEREMONY.

15. DEPARTURE WOULD BE FROM TEMPELHOF.

FIRST ECONOMIC SUMMIT DAY

16. THERE ARE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS HERE WHICH ARE
DELICATE ALTHOUGH NOT CRITICAL. THERE WILL PROBABLY
BE A MORNING CHURCH SERVICE AT THE AMERICAN
CHURCH. ON THE OTHER HAND, FRAN ALSO EXPRESSED
INTEREST IN A POSSIBLE OUTDOOR SERVICE. ON REFLECTION
WE DO NOT

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FAVOR THIS, BOTH BECAUSE OF WEATHER CONSIDERATIONS AND BECAUSE SPECTATORS OR NOISE MAKERS COULD TURN THE AFFAIR INTO A CIRCUS OR WORSE. IN ADDITION, STRICTLY FOR YOUR BACKGROUND, THE RESPONSIBLE PROTESTANT CLERGYMAN HAS PERSONAL MISGIVINGS ABOUT SUCH AN IDEA BASED ON CONCERN OVER A PUBLICITY-LADEN OR CARNIVAL ATMOSPHERE.

16. THERE IS ALSO THE QUESTION OF WHERE AND FOR HOW LONG TO MEET WITH THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY. WE WOULD LIKE SUCH A MEETING, OF COURSE.

17. WHAT YOU HAVE ABOVE IS OF COURSE COMPRESSED. IT IS ALSO WITHOUT BENEFIT OF FIELD COMMENT FROM BERLIN OR FRANKFURT. YOU AND WE WILL RECEIVE BERLIN'S COMMENTS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW HOURS. ALSO, SINCE ABOVE WAS DRAFTED, WE HAVE GOTTEN A PRELIMINARY MESSAGE FROM LEHMANN IN FRANKFURT. IT IS FOR OUR COMMENTS AND THOSE OF MILITARY COMMANDS, AND WE WILL WORK IT OVER AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE FOR WASHINGTON. WE ARE, HOWEVER, SENDING YOU THE BRIGADE 76 PORTIONS BY NODIS SEPTTEL (NOT STADIS) WHICH YOU MAY WANT TO SHARE WITH FRAN. WOLF AND COMPANY HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB OF MAKING THE BRIGADE-76 PORTION ACTION-FILLED, SOMETHING PERHAPS NOT REFLECTED IN OUR NARRATIVE ABOVE. NONETHELESS, WE WANT A CHANCE TO LOOK MORE AT HIS SUGGESTIONS AND AT HANAU
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(WHICH WOLF DOESN'T TREAT), AND PROBABLY SO WILL WASHINGTON.
STOESSEL

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